

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend paragraph [0022] as follows:

[0022] The details and scope of aspects of the present invention can best be understood upon review of the attached figures and their following descriptions. FIGURE 1 is a plan view of an ornament retaining fixture 10 comprising a frame 11 and ornament retaining arrangements 12 according to one aspect of the present invention. In the aspect of the invention shown, frame 11 comprises a plurality of individual triangular perforated frame panels 14. According to this aspect of the invention, frame 11 is illustrated in a pre-assembled state, that is, prior to the assembly of frame panels 14 into a polygonal shape, for example, the triangular-shaped ornamental fixture shown in FIGURES 7A and 7B. According to the ~~presenting~~ present invention, frame 11 includes a plurality ornament retaining arrangements 12 having apertures 16 with each aperture 16 having one or more mounting pins 18 for mounting ornaments. Frame 11 may also include means 19 for hanging fixture 10, for example, eyelets, hooks, or other conventional structures for hanging fixture 10.

Please amend paragraph [0023] as follows:

[0023] FIGURE 2 illustrates a plan view of one frame panel 14 having a plurality of ornaments 20, 22 mounted therein on mounting pins 18 according to one aspect of the present invention. For clarity of illustration, only a representative set of ornaments 20, 22 are shown in FIGURE 2. According to this aspect of the invention, ornaments 20, 22 may comprise perforated ornaments, that is, ornaments having a through hole. Ornaments 20, 22 may be perforated beads or crystals, for example, multifaceted octagonal beads or multifaceted spherical beads. According to one aspect of the invention, ornaments 20, 22, and all ornaments discussed herein, may comprise any type of perforated bead, stone, crystal, or the like that may be used in decorative fixtures. For example, according to one aspect of the ~~invention-ornaments-~~ invention, ornaments 20, 22 may comprise any type of faceted or non-faceted (that is, smooth) shape, for example, spheres, cubes, cones, bars, tubes, rods, prisms, and the like.

Ornaments 20, 22 may be made from glass, plastic, metal, stone, or any other conventional material from which ornamental beads are typically made. Ornaments 20, 22 may also comprise perforated gems, for example, diamonds, rubies, sapphires, opals, and the like. Ornaments 20, 22 may be made from a transparent, translucent, or opaque material, for example, colored glass. In one aspect of the invention, ornaments 20, 22 may also comprise illuminated ornaments, such as, lights or light-emitting diodes (LEDs).

Please amend paragraph [028] as follows:

[028] In another aspect of the invention, mounting post ~~46~~ 18 may be mounted on the upper surface of frame 11 or the lower surface of frame 11, whereby mounting post 18 projects above or below aperture 16, for example, when aperture 16 is produced by drilling, punching, or any of the cutting methods referenced above. In one aspect of the invention, mounting post 18 may be mounted above the upper surface of frame 11 or below the lower surface of frame 11 and project into aperture 16 at an oblique angle, for example, non-parallel to either the upper or the lower surface of frame 11. In one aspect of the invention, mounting post 18 may be mounted to frame 11 by any conventional means, for example, by means of welding (for example, resistance welding), brazing, with an adhesive, or by means of mechanical fasteners.

Please amend paragraph [038] as follows:

[038] According to this aspect of the present invention, the axis of ornament 85 may be oriented in any desired direction. For example, in one aspect of the invention, ornament 85 may be mounted to mounting post 84 whereby angle θ is about equal to angle ϕ , for instance, if angle ϕ is about 45 degrees, angle θ may be about 45 degrees. In another aspect of the invention, angle θ may vary from angle ϕ . For example, in this aspect of the invention, the orientation of mounting post 84, which in the prior aspects of the invention is shown substantially oriented parallel to the surface of frame 81, may vary from being parallel to the surface of frame 81. For example, mounting post 84 may have an angle that varies from the angle of orientation of surface 92, that is, varies from

angle ϕ . The variation of the orientation of ornament 85 may also be defined or assisted by the geometry of the internal surfaces of aperture 82. In one aspect of the invention, the orientation of mounting post 84 relative to the vertical may be about equal to angle θ , for example, when through hole 86 is substantially perpendicular to axis 88. In another aspect of the invention, through hole 86 may not be substantially perpendicular to axis 88 and angle θ may vary from the angle of orientation of mounting post 84. Other geometric configurations of the angle of mounting post 84 and angles θ and ϕ will be apparent to those familiar with the art. According to one aspect of the ~~invention surface~~ invention, surface 82 may be a planar surface, as shown in FIGURES 7A and 7B, or a curved surface, as shown in FIGURE 8.